

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 /087 W

-----069333 101903Z /53

R 101033Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7052

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1605

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORT, PINT, SU, XF

SUBJ: NIMEIRI PLANS ARAB SOLIDARITY ACTION

1. NIMEIRI HAS NOW RPT NOW FORMALLY AND PUBLICLY ACCEPTED

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POSITION AS HEAD ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE. SUDANGOV HAS
ESTABLISHED COMMITTEE IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY TO CONTACT
ARAB LEAGUE MEMBER STATES AND COORDINATE ACTIVITIES OF
SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE HEADED BY NIMEIRI. "CONSULTATIONS ARE
UNDERWAY" TO COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE AND TO
DETERMINE DATE OF MEETINGS, ACCORDING PRESS. ARAB
LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL IS DUE IN KHARTOUM APRIL 10

TO DISCUSS OPERATIONS OF COMMITTEE. NIMQLBFITD
POLITICAL RALLY APRIL 9 THAT HE WILL NOT BE SEEN IN
PUBLIC FOR A WEEK WHILE HE DEVOTES HIMSELF INTENSELY TO WORK
OF ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE.

2. COMMENT: NIMEIRI MET APRIL 9 WITH SAUDI ARABIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER PRINCE SAUD AL FAISAL WHO IS IN KHARTOUM
FOR TWO-DAY CONSULTATION. NIMEIRI AND SUDANESE MEDIA HAVE
TAKEN STANCE THAT NIMEIRI'S LEADERSHIP OF ARAB SOLIDARITY
COMMITTEE REFLECTS MUCH CREDIT ON SUDAN. HOWEVER,
DOMESTIC WOES CULMINATING NOW IN STRIKE ACTIONS MAY BE
MORE IMPORTANT REASON FOR NIMEIRI'S STRESS ON HIS SUCCESSFUL
ROLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. NIMEIRI'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE
WOULD BE CLOSETED FOR WEEK WITH SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE GAVE
RISE TO RUMORS THAT HE WAS IN FACT ACTUALLY PLANNING TO
TACKLE DOMESTIC PROBLEMS, SPECIFICALLY PLANNING RECONCILIATION
MEETING WITH SHARIF HUSSEIN AL-HINDI, STILL-EXILED OPPOSITION
LEADER. THIS MAY NOT BE TRUE EITHER, BUT IT IS LIKELY
THAT NIMEIRI MAY BE COMBINING ARAB SOLIDARITY ACTIVITY WITH
URGENT DISCUSSIONS WITH ARAB FRIENDS ABOUT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
REQUIRED SOON TO PACIFY RESTLESS UNIONS OR TO TACKLE OTHER
SUDDENLY URGENT DOMESTIC PROBLEMS.
BERGUS

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NNN

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